

TOWN OF SUDBURY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM

Submitter: Maureen Valente, Town Manager  Submission Date: 10/31/08

Group or Committee Affiliation (if any): Board of Selectmen

Submitter's address and phone number:

278 Old Sudbury Rd
Sudbury, MA 01776
978-639-3385

Purpose (please select all that apply):

- Open Space
- Community Housing
- Historic
- XX Recreation

Submitter's email address: valentem@sudbury.ma.us

Project Name: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Existing Conditions Base Map/Concept Design Plan

Project Description: *see attached*

Costs:

Fiscal Year	Total Project Cost	CPC Funds Requested	Other Funding Sources (amount and source)
2010	\$25,000	\$25,000	
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
Total	\$25,000	\$25,000	

How does this project meet the General Criteria and Category Specific Criteria for CPC projects (see attached)? *Design of the rail trail is an eligible CPA expense. See below response from the Community Preservation Coalition website (www.communitypreservation.org).*

Incidental Project Costs. CPA funds may be used for site surveys, environmental assessments, historic or housing consultants, architectural and engineering fees, permit processing fees, construction consultants, financing consultants, legal and accounting fees, and similar costs associated with and incidental to the development of a CPA project. Such expenditures should be made from the appropriation for the particular project and, as project costs, they do not constitute operation or administration expenses of the committee subject to the 5% limitation.

Does this project fall within the jurisdiction or interest of other Town Boards, Committees or Departments? If so, please list the boards, committees or departments, whether applications and/or presentations have been made, and what input or recommendations have been given.

The Town Manager/Board of Selectmen are proposing this project. The Conservation Commission and Park & Recreation Commission will ultimately have input into any final design of a rail trail. Both of those committees have supported this project in the past. Creation of a rail trail is consistent with the recommendations in the Master Plan.

For Community Preservation Committee Use:

Form Received on: _____

Project Presented to CPC on: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Determination: _____

Project Description:

This proposal is a request to expend, up to \$25,000 from Article 24 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting (Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Existing Conditions Base Map) for the creation of a concept plan for the trail. The concept plan will be based on the survey data, wetland information, and wildlife information collected in Articles 22, 23 and 24 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting. The concept plan will allow the Town to engage the Executive Office of Transportation, owners of the former railroad bed, in discussions about waiving certain MassHighway standards for construction of the trail. Preparing a concept plan is thought to be a more economical alternative to preliminary or 25% design plans. From the survey, wetlands investigation, and wildlife evaluation, the Town now has enough information to begin formulating a concept plan which will be sensitive to town character and local environmental issues. A concept plan will better allow the Town to continue public discussions about the eventual design of the trail by having more up-to-date graphics of the trail location and suggestions for design elements. In addition, given the budgetary constraints facing the state and the inability to fund all the desired rail trails through the state's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) process, this interim plan will also give the Town more time to discuss potential design and funding options.

Article 24 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting appropriated \$105,000 for the creation of a base map. An RFP was advertised, and the contract was awarded to Atlantic Engineering for the price of \$52,685. Although the Town has not fully accepted Atlantic's work on the project (wetlands outside the property lines of the corridor have not been fully identified), there is adequate money left in the article to complete wetland mapping with an outside engineering firm and create the concept plan. Any funds remaining after completion of the survey, wetlands mapping and concept plan will go back into the CPA fund.

The funding for Article 24 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting expires at the end of FY10, however it is anticipated that both the base map and the concept plan will be completed prior to that date (June 30, 2010). Therefore no extension of time is necessary.

**ARTICLE 24. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND – BRUCE FREEMAN RAIL TRAIL:
EXISTING CONDITIONS BASE MAP**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$105,000 from the Community Preservation Act Funds, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for the purpose of conducting an Environmental Resource Delineation and incorporating same into a new surveyed existing-conditions base map of the north-south railroad right of way currently owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, running from the intersection with the east-west MBTA railroad right of way north to the Concord border, such funds to be expended only after the Town has completed a satisfactory title search authorized under Article 22 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting, said work to be performed under the direction of the Town Manager and to be completed by the end of Fiscal Year 2010, or act on anything relative thereto. All appropriations will be allocated to the Recreation category and funded from FY08 Revenue.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee. (Majority vote required)

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE (CPC) REPORT: Article 24 requests an appropriation to fund both an Environmental Resource Delineation and the incorporation of same into a newly surveyed existing conditions base map study of the railroad corridor. The information from this study will allow the Town Manager and the Conservation Commission, working in concert, to determine how such environmental resources may affect or be affected by the plans for the creation of a rail trail. A Notice of Resource Area Delineation under both the Sudbury Wetlands Administration Bylaw and the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act will be filed with the Sudbury Conservation Commission. Both the Environmental Resource Delineation and the existing-conditions base map are State requirements should the Town choose to pursue construction of—and seek any potential reimbursement for—a full build-out of the rail trail. The Selectmen have asked the CPC to explicitly require that these funds only be expended upon the completion of a satisfactory title search authorized by the 2007 Annual Town Meeting under Article 22, as they would not move forward with other rail trail expenditures unless any unexpected complications arising from the title search were resolved. As explained in the CPC Committee Report for Article 22, the CPC has put an end date on this project. Again, all appropriations on this rail trail project will be allocated to the Recreation category.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN POSITION: The Board of Selectmen unanimously supports this article.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: The Finance Committee will report at Town Meeting.